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An
Inaugural Dissertation
W. E. Hb.

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On
Intermittent Fever
Submitted to the Examination
Of the
Trustees And Medical Faculty
Of the
University of Pennsylvania
For the Degree

Of
Doctor of Medicine
By
Charles Shoemaker
Of Pennsylvania
December 4th

Satisfactory

A. D.

1826.

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A. Dissertation On Intermittent Fever. &c.

The title of Intermittent is applied to that kind of fever which consists of a succession of paroxysms, between each of which there is a distinct intermission from febrile symptoms, or an apyrexial period.

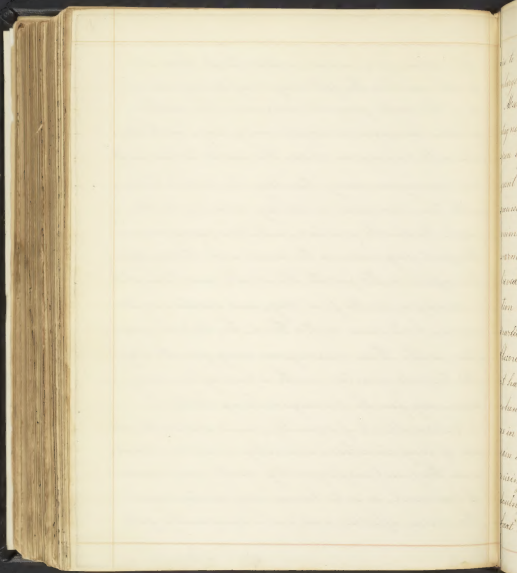
Different names have been applied to this fever, according to the length of time observed between the periods of its return. When the disease consists of a number of paroxysms, it is generally observed that the intervals between them are nearly equal; but these intervals are of different lengths in different persons, or in the same person at different times. The most usual interval is that of forty eight hours, which is called Tertian. The next most frequent is that of twenty four hours, and is named Quotidian. There is another of seventy two hours, which is termed the Quartan.

When these fevers occur in the spring of the year, they are called vernal; and when they arise in autumn, they have received the name of autumnal.

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Of tertian and quartan intermittents there are several varieties. The following may be enumerated as of the most frequent occurrence. The double tertian, having a paroxysm every day, with the alternate paroxysms alike. The double tertian, with two paroxysms every other day. The triple tertian, with two paroxysms on one day, and one on the next. The double quartan, with two paroxysms on the first day, none on the second and third, and two again on the fourth. The double quartan, with a paroxysm on the first day, and another on the second, but none on the third. The triple quartan, with three paroxysms every fourth day. The triple quartan, with a paroxysm every day, every fourth paroxysm being alike.

Intermittents frequently prove obstinate, and are of long duration, especially in warm climates, and they not unfrequently resist every mode of treatment, so as to become very distressing to the person affected, and not unfrequently give



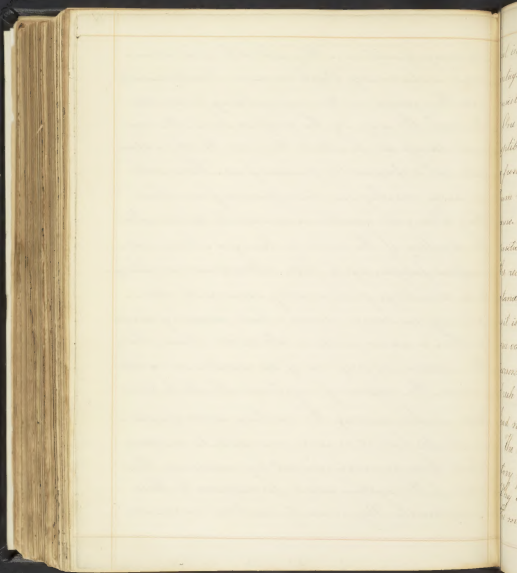
due to other chronic complaints, particularly an enlargement of the liver and spleen.

Marsh miasmata, or the effluvia arising from stagnant waters, or marshy ground, when acted upon by heat, are supposed to be the most frequent exciting cause of this fever. In low marshy grounds, the putrefaction of both vegetable and animal matter is always going on in the warm seasons, and hence it is generally believed, that vegetable or animal putrefaction imparts a peculiar quality to the watery particles of the effluvia arising from thence.

According to the observations of some Physicians it has been stated, that marsh miasmata, when much diluted with aqueous exhalations, as in seasons when an unusual quantity of rain has fallen, are nearly inert; but when arising from stagnant waters of a concentrated fouling in consequence of great drought and heat in the latter end of summer and the

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beginning of autumn may act with great violence and malignancy. People in warm climates usually take their exercise in the evening, being prevented through the day by the excessive heat; the cool and damp air to which they are thereby exposed, not unfrequently produce fever. The winds in some marshy countries produce fever when they blow over marshes, and cease to spread when the direction of the wind is changed. A poor diet, excessive fatigue, loss of sleep, intemperance in eating and drinking, great anxiety, exposure to cold, sleeping in damp rooms or beds, wearing damp clothes, a warm moist or cold damp atmosphere, the sudden suppression of an accustomed evacuation, the reception of eruptions, all which have been ranked among the exciting causes of intermittents: but it is more reasonable to suppose that these circumstances act by inducing that state of the system which predisposes to these complaints. By some it has been imagined,





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[illegible]



[illegible]



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in the black sea in my son, there is deep
sorrow and grief, when these symptoms have
passed he now has a more cheerful and
bright countenance, and is greatly improved, and
his voice extends to the whole family, as the
sorrow continues to leave the heart on the tongue
after the first convulsion, the mind descends a
moment, as it were is quiescent, and most
of the passions are reduced to their ordinary state.
The patient is however but in a weak and un-
settled condition, this constitutes the third stage.

It being pointed out that phenomena usually attendant on a paroxysm of intermittent fever, and likewise the mode of emergence, it may not be amiss, by its association to notes, thus to suggest, & cast light upon the different stages, that the series is then, & it is now, complete; and that the several stages in the time of eruption, may be in different temperatures to each other.



I select a description of strength in the new
to him, from the effect of an intermittent fever,
as it is not of the nature of a permanent
disease, as very uncommon. Patients are
usually healthy in intermittent fevers, and
inflammation is more a disease of the
system of the body, as the disease is more
happens elsewhere, as in the lungs, or
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ing the bottom, the great mass of water
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and accordingly the intention is to prevent
 its return at the usual, or, rather, higher price, both
 by creating a new value in the system by admin-
 istering certain remedies at the commencement,
 or by continuing them in use, when a low con-
 siderable action in the system is produced, in-
 duced by the cause of the disease, and counteracting
 the cause. By administering an emetic imme-
 diately upon the accession of the first stage, we
 may sometimes be enabled to destroy the morbid
 acceleration induced by the cause of the disease,
 and thereby prevent a return of the paroxysm.
 To see the benefit of these preceding remedies,
 we must consider them in connection with the saluta-
 ry regimen, and if the patient be of a hot
 habit, with a quick and violent circulation,
 it will be necessary to give such remedies as will
 destroy this morbid acceleration, and something will be very
 easy. Having by these means prepared the
 system, tonic remedies should be next employed



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a very strong opinion that it is not to be considered
 a matter of the least moment, but as a the
 most important. It is therefore the wish of the
 committee that the same should be
 referred to the committee on the subject of
 the proposed amendments to the constitution, and
 if it is found that it is not a matter of
 great importance, it is to be referred to the
 committee on the subject of the proposed
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 constitution may be instructed to report thereon
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the manner, and we are now, I understand, it is used by the ear and I am persuaded, it will be found more valuable than the Peruvian bark, and not less to excite a salivary flow. The mode in which this remedy may be employed to great advantage from its abundance in our country, is by bathing twice a third a day in a strong decoction of it, which, I believe, are parts to which it owes its effect. It not alone increases, still further, the salivary secretion, when the Bilek of bark is not convenient, the Sea oak bark, the air consumed in the process, may be used, still that, as it has been employed to increase the salivary secretion in the latter cases.

Dr. Hise is a strong supporter of Unionism
and is particularly in the last 5
years, Dr. Barton. He was a member
of the Union and is now the Secy of the
Union and is working with the Union
and is a strong supporter of Unionism.



The steamer "Lark" has been used for some time
 in our country as the most excellent substitute for
 Peruvian bark, particularly in the case of enteric
 fevers, which the bark of the white mangrove,
 and the Peruvian bark, all of which may be
 given in the same doses and with the same
 effect. The bark of the white mangrove is
 said to be as much as the Peruvian bark
 but the steamer bark is a useful medicine in
 the very worst, and will often be obtained by
 the steamer bark. The bark in many cases has
 been given it is also a useful remedy for
 the stomach. The steamer bark is

Best of bark

It is now used in the same manner
 as before, and is taken in the same way, by
 the bark of the white mangrove, or the bark
 of the Peruvian bark, or the bark of the
 steamer bark, or the bark of the white mangrove,
 if a large quantity is given, and some more
 is given in the system of the bark
 and the bark is taken every night and morning





Stimulants warm the feet, by increasing a pulsating change in the capillaries, thus gradually warming the limbs. It is the way, but not the cause, of a sense of warmth in the limbs. The sensation of the feet and limbs is due to a stimulation of the nerves by a change in the blood supply, and not to a direct action on the nerves. The sensation of warmth in the limbs is due to a stimulation of the nerves by a change in the blood supply, and not to a direct action on the nerves. The sensation of warmth in the limbs is due to a stimulation of the nerves by a change in the blood supply, and not to a direct action on the nerves.



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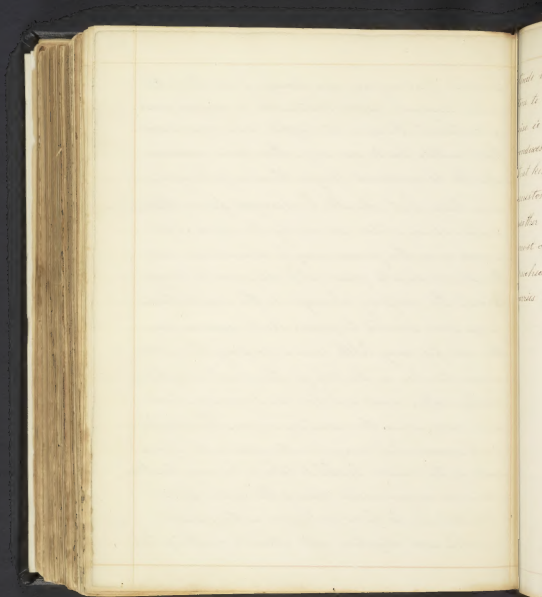






medicine is as necessary as a change of air. That the
 system may not become habituated to any one mode
 of treatment; therefore it ought to be remembered
 that neither bark nor any other tonic medicine
 should be continued longer than a fortnight
 at a time, but should be changed for another
 article whose virtues are nearly the same. After
 a week or so, the former may be resumed in case
 the disease should prove obstinate; and to bring
 about the necessary change in the constitution,
 large doses should be given. As to regimen in
 the cold fit very little more is necessary than some
 warm drinks, in the hot fit the drink may be
 barley water, mint or balm tea, Lemonade, toast
 and water, when the sweating begins. The drinks
 just mentioned may be enlivened with wines
 and if the patient be able to take it he may be allow-
 ed some nourishment during the intermission.

The diet should be as nutritious as the patients
 appetite and digestion will allow. Every thing that



tends to keep up a gentle perspiration and to give
tone to the vessels is useful: hence moderate exer-
cise is singularly proper, since nothing more
conduces to those effects: the exercise should be of
that kind to which the patient has been most
accustomed, and taken in the open air, unless wet
weather or a damp situation forbid. But the ut-
most care should be taken that exercise be not
pushed to fatigue, which, by inducing debility,
carries thousands to untimely graves. &c

